Box 23-9 Libya, R 14

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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Tripoli 2317 9/7/69

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01, EUR-17, NEA-13, CIAE-00, DODE-00, JPM-04, H-02, INR-07, L-03,
NSAE-00, NSC-10, P-03, RSC-01, PRS-01, SS-20, USIA-12, E-15, AID-28, O-02,
OPR-02, OC-06, SY-03, CCO-00, COM-08, INT-06, DOT-12, CPR-02, NIC-01,
SCS-04, SCA-01, IO-13, RSR-01, /216 W ---------- 101019

P R 071700Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4729
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
RJTMAT/AMEMBASSY AOPHENS 218
AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY FORTLAMY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
(1) AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
CINCUSAFE
CINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
AMEMBASSY BAIDA UNN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 12 JUL 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE ____
TS AUTH. ____ REASON(S) ____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS ____

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2317

CINCEUR FOR ECJC

SUBJ: SITREP 1700 SEP 7 - LIBYA

REF: TRIPOLI 2293

1. RETURN TO NEAR-NORMAL:. AFTER SOME UNCERTAINTY,

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TRIPOLI RESIDENTS REALIZED TWELVE HOUR RELAXATION CUR-
FEW DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS IMPLEMENTED YESTERDAY APPARENTLY
ON ONE-SHOT BASIS WAS ACTUALLY INTENDED TO BE ON "FROM NOW
ON" BASIS. CITY CAME TO LIFE BY MIDMORNING. PRINCIPAL
(SHOP OWNERS WHO FAILED OPEN PREVIOUSLY HAVE
REPORTEDLY BEEN TOLD VERY FIRMLY BY RCC REPRESENTATIVES
THAT THEY WILL HENCEFORTH OPEN THROUGHOUT DAY.) AMPLE
SUPPLIES MEAT, VEGETABLE OIL, FRUIT, VEGETABLES, ETC.
APPEAR TO BE AVAILABLE. SOME PORT WORKERS REPORTED FOR
DUTY IN RESPONSE RCC DIRECTIVE, BUT STEVEDORE STAFF STILL
UNDERSTRENGTH, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE BUSES STILL NOT
RUNNING. (TRIPOLI BUSES HAVE BEEN ORDERED TODAY TO RESUME
OPERATIONS IMMEDIATELY.) SOME SHIPS HAVE ENTERED AND
LEFT HARBOR, AND ACTIVELY PORT SLOWLY EDGING BACK TO NORMAL.
TOBACCO VENDORS HAVE REOPENED THEIR SHOPS IN RESPONSE
RCC ORDERS. OIC TRIPOLI FOREIGN MINISTRY NOW RECEIVING
FOREIGN DIPLOMATS IN HIS OFFICE. NUMBER OF SOLDIERS GUARDING CHANCERY
AND
IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORHOOD REDUCED. REPLACEMENTS HAVE BEEN TWO
PLAINCLOSTHESMEN WHO ARE CAREFULLY OBSERVING ALL CALLERS
AT CHANCERY. MORNING NEWSPAPERS EMPHASIZED THEME
"TIME HAS COME FOR ALL TO RETURN TO WORK." TUNISIAN, GERMAN
KUWAITI AND SPANISH AMBASSADORS ENCOUNTERED NO DIFFICULTY IN
RETURN TO TRIPOLI. GERMAN COMPLETED FINAL LEG OF JOURNEY
FROM PASSENGER/CARGO SHIP ANCHORED OUTSIDE HARBOR
ENTRANDE ABOARD PILOT BOAT.

2. SITUATION STILL UNCERTAIN, HOWEVER. AMERICAN CHARTER
PILOT FLYING OIL COMPANY RESUPPLY FLIGHT WAS LIGHTLY
WOUNDED AT CIVIL AIRPORT MORNING SEPT 7 WHEN TRIGGER-
HAPPY SOLDIER INSISTING ON INSPECTION BOXES OF CARGO THOUGHT
PILOT HAD REFUSED HIM PERMISSION TO MAKE SEARCH.

3. LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC AIR FORCE (LARAF) F-5 CRASHED INTO
MEDITERRANEAN DURING NIGHT PATROL SEP 6-7. WHEELUS LAUNCHED
RESCUE AIRCRAFT AFTER DAYLIGHT, BUT FOUND NO TRACE OF
EITHER AIRCRAFT OR PILOT. CHIEF MAAG AND CHIEF AFSEC VISITED
LARAF HEADQUARTERS AND EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES TO LARAF
DEPUTY COMMANDER WHO DEEPLY MOVED BY THEIR ACTION.

4. FOREIGN RELATIONS: MALTA AND MOROCOO HAVE ANNOUNCED
RECOGNITION LAR TODAY. TURKEY EXPRESSED DESIRE CONTINUE

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FRIENDLY RELATIONS.

5. OLD REGIME PERSONALITIES: LAR TV TELECAST HOUR-LONG PROGRAM EVENING SEPT 6 SHOWING APPROXIMATELY FIFTY OLD REGIME WORTHIES, NOTABLES, AND RESPONSIBLES LED BY EX-CROWN PRINCE, ONE FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND TWELVE EX-MINISTERS EXPLAINING THEIR PAST ACTIONS AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR RCC. RESIDENTS ANTICIPATE TELECAST TONIGHT SHOWING THOSE ROUNDED UP AND HELD IN BENGHAZI. FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY 'UMAYYIR WAS REMOVED FROM TRIPOLI HOTEL WHERE HE HAD BEEN UNDER ENFORCED RESIDENCE SINCE SPT 1 AND ESCORTED OFF, PRESUMABLY TO AZIZZIYYA BARRACKS OR KHOMS ROAD PRISON WHERE OTHER RESPONSIBLES NOW BEING HELD.

6. IN VIEW SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE RELAXATION AND SHOWING PACE OF DEVELOPMENTS, EMBASSY PLANS RETURN NORMAL DUTY HOURS SEPT 8.

7. SKELETON STAFF AT EMBASSY WHICH HAS BEEN OPERATIONAL SINCE SEP 1 BEING REDUCED TO ALL-NIGHT DUTY OFFICER, COMMUNICATIONS STAFF AND MARINE SECURITY GUARD. ALL KEY PERSONNEL INCLUDING CHARGE WILL BE ON CALL.

8. THIS WILL BE FINAL SITREP. HENCEFORTH DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE REPORTED ONLY IN INDIVIDUAL TELEGRAMS.
GP-4:
BLAKE

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